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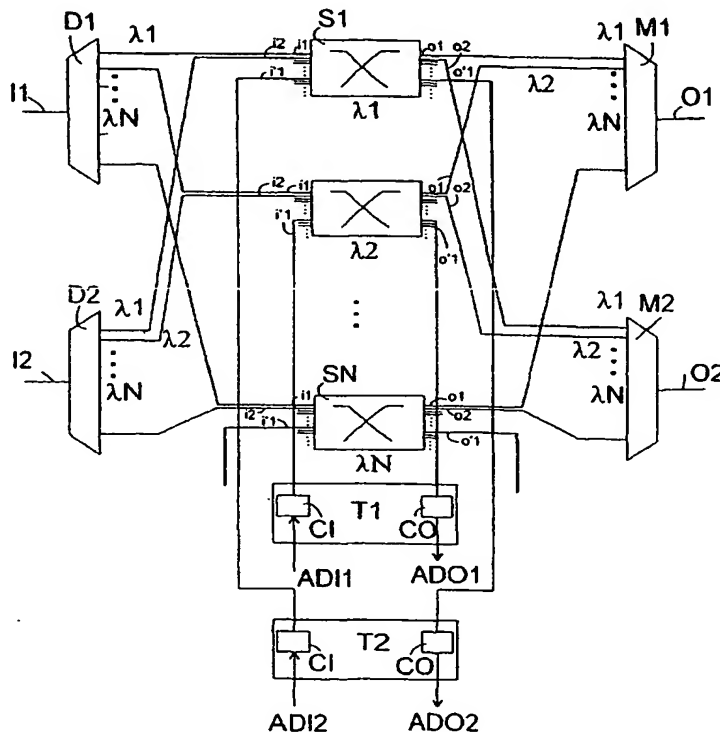
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(54) Title: A PATH PROTECTION METHOD FOR A WDM NETWORK AND ACCORDING NODE



(57) Abstract: In a wavelength division multiplex (WDM) optical communications network having a plurality of nodes, each of which comprises a wavelength selective optical cross-connect having a plurality of switching fabrics, each switching fabric being provided for switching wavelength channels of a specific wavelength, a method of transmitting information from a start node to a target node comprises: applying to respective inputs (*i*' 1) of switching fabrics of the start cross-connect, at least two wavelength channels (working and protection channels) having different wavelengths but which are modulated with the same information; transmitting the working and protection channels to the target cross-connect; and dropping the working and protection channels at outputs of different switching fabrics provided for different wavelengths of the target cross-connect.

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